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## VIA HAND DELIVERY

APR 2 5 2003

April 25, 2003

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECHETARY

## **EX PARTE**

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission The Portals 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room TW-A325 Washington, D.C. 20554

Re:

Oral Ex Parte Presentation

CC Docket No. 02-33

Dear Ms. Dortch,

On April 24, 2003, Steven Teplitz, Vice President and Associate General Counsel, AOL Time Warner Inc. ("AOL"), Donna Lampert and the undersigned, both of Lampert & O'Connor, P.C., met with Chris Libertelli, Legal Advisor to Chairman Powell, regarding the above-referenced proceeding.

In the meeting, we discussed the fact that the proposed Title I reclassification of wireline broadband telecommunications services would be subject to significant legal challenge and uncertainty. We noted that longstanding FCC precedent makes clear that wireline broadband telecommunications services are subject to Title II and that the Computer Inquiry requirements are based in Title II as well. We explained that judicial precedent demonstrates that courts have consistently held that the regulatory classification of common carrier services is not a matter of FCC discretion, but rather must satisfy the legal tests set forth in NARUC I. We noted that Title I is not a stand-alone basis for authority but must be consistent with other provisions of the Act and that there is insufficient statutory nexus to sustain Title I authority in this case. Based on the case precedent, we observed that judicial deference is unlikely.

We further stated that a shift to Title I would undermine the FCC's enforcement process and noted that the lack of precedent will effectively eliminate enforcement, even assuming that Title I enforcement is upheld in the face of almost certain legal challenge. The resulting uncertainty will further chill information service deployment, innovation and investment.

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Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b)(2) of the Commission's rules, two copies of this letter are being provided to you for inclusion in the public record of the above-captioned proceedings. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely, Yurdu Klent

Linda L. Ken

Counsel for AOL Time Warner Inc.

cc: Chris Libertelli